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23 September 1964

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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Approved For Release 2002/07/23 : CIA-RDP79T00975A007900190001-4

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India: New Delhi's efforts to maintain the uneasy political calm that has prevailed in Indian Kashmir since last spring have been dealt a crippling blow.

The eight-month-old Sadiq government there has prorogued the state legislature and thrown former premier Bakshi Ghulam Muhammad into jail rather than face a vote of confidence in which Bakshi's supporters had indicated they would vote with the opposition. Their defection would have denied Sadiq a majority even in his own ruling party.

Because Sadiq lacks a wide popular following, his position is now virtually untenable. New Delhi's options for relief are all in varying degrees unsatisfactory. Restoration of strong-arm rule would reverse the liberalizing trend India has encouraged since Bakshi was deposed last year. It might even spark open rebellion.

New Delhi might in time turn to Kashmir's only genuinely popular figure, Sheikh Abdullah. Much of his popularity, however, derives from his advocacy of a Kashmir solution based on self-determination, a position that creates substantial difficulties for New Delhi.

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Dominican Republic: Demonstrations against the government may occur on 25 September, the first anniversary of the overthrow of the Bosch regime.

The Communist-controlled Federation of Dominican Students (FED) has declared 25 September a "day of patriotic struggle against dictatorships" and called for demonstrations, parades and symbolic strikes.

The declaration also listed FED demands on the government. Among them are restoration of the inviolability of the University of Santo Domingo, a general political amnesty, and legalization of four leftist organizations, including the Communist Popular Socialist Party.

Although no serious threat to the regime is likely, harsh repressive measures by government forces could provoke violence.

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NOTES

Laos: Second echelon representatives have been designated to continue negotiations in Paris on terms for reconvening a 14-nation conference, following the breakup on 21 September of the talks between leaders of the three factions. Little progress can be expected unless there is a substantial shift in the political or military balance in Laos. The leaders were unable to agree on terms for neutralist control of the Plaine des Jarres.

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